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# REPORT

OF THE



# FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

OF THE

# Town of Grafton,

INCLUDING A REPORT FROM THE

# SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1881.

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EAST CANAAN:

REPORTER PRESS, C. O. BARNEY, PRINTER.  
1881.



# TREASURER'S REPORT.

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|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| In Treasurer's hands Feb. 26, 1880,                  | \$959 72  |
| Received of Merrimack County, support Veasey family, | 129 13    |
| County Treasurer,                                    | 538 41    |
| State Treasurer, R. R. tax,                          | 214 75    |
| " " Savings Bank tax,                                | 565 51    |
| " " Literary Fund,                                   | 82 14     |
| Jarvis Barney, Liquor Agent,                         | 1223 00   |
| Henry O. Rollins, Collector,                         | 3200 00   |
|  | -----     |
|  | \$6912 66 |
| Paid State tax,                                      | \$864 00  |
| County tax,  | 1454 55   |
| L. M. Ford, school house tax,                        | 25 00     |
| Several school districts,                            | 1086 00   |
| Selectmen,   | 2633 76   |
|  | -----     |
|  | \$6063 31 |
| Balance in Treasurer's hands,                        | \$849 35  |

J. E. MARTIN, Treasurer.

Feb. 25, 1881.

# AUDITOR'S REPORT.

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Having examined the Selectmen's books and accounts, now submit the following report:

## CASH RECEIVED BY THE SELECTMEN.

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Received of State Treasurer, bounty on hawks,                          | \$3 40    |
| Balance of C. Kimball note,  | 18 06     |
| From rent of tramp house,  | 2 50      |
| of H. O. Rollins, Collector, interest collected<br>on taxes of 1878-9, | 7 98      |
| of Town Treasurer,   | 2633 76   |
| Total received by the Selectmen,                                       | \$2665 70 |

## DISBURSEMENTS BY THE SELECTMEN.

### *County Bills.*

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Paid Lorenzo D. Braley, for hay for John Batchelder,                        | \$7 05 |
| John D. Chellis, for rent of house for Veasey family,                       | 2 40   |
| Barney Brothers, goods for Geo. H. Smith,                                   | 4 42   |
| Dr. A. B. Hoyt, for professional services rendered<br>John St. Jock family, | 5 00   |
| Dr. A. B. Hoyt, for professional services rendered<br>G. H. Veasey family,  | 4 75   |
| Henry C. Varnum, for support of Ziba Varnum,                                | 25 00  |
| Peter S. Braley, for support of Calvin Heath,                               | 6 75   |
| J. E. Martin, goods for Calvin Heath,                                       | 5 53   |
| W. H. Kilton, for 1 bag meal for John Batchelder,                           | 1 40   |
| E. F. Folsom, goods for John Batchelder,                                    | 2 64   |
| Alvah Stevens, car fare and expense to Sutton in<br>pauper case,            | 6 00   |
| E. F. Folsom, goods for John Batchelder,                                    | 3 01   |
| J. E. Martin, goods for G. H. Veasey,                                       | 2 70   |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| J. E. Martin, goods for John Batchelder,                       | 2 65  |
| F. R. Smith, two bush. potatoes for St. Jock family,           | 60    |
| J. E. Martin, goods for Mrs. Hopkins,                          | 6 82  |
| J. E. Martin, goods for John Batchelder family,                | 10 75 |
| Alvah Stevens, 4 bush. potatoes for Geo. H. Smith<br>family,   | 1 40  |
| Dr. A. B. Hoyt, for professional services rendered             |       |
| Mrs. Joseph Sleeper,   | 3 00  |
| Seth B. Barney, for support of Mrs. Roby Prescott,             | 9 00  |
| Austin Morse, wood for Mrs. Hopkins,                           | 2 00  |
| L. D. Williams, goods for Frank Sleeper,                       | 65    |
| L. D. Williams, goods for Calvin Heath,                        | 90    |
| L. D. Williams, goods for Geo H. Smith,                        | 7 73  |
| L. D. Williams, goods for John Batchelder,                     | 10 47 |
| James Buffum. house rent and wood for G. H. Smith<br>family,   | 8 50  |
| L. D. Williams, goods for St. Jock family,                     | 8 08  |
| D. J. Clay, for beef and wood for Veasey family,               | 3 84  |
| Mrs. Mary E. Hopkins, aid for her and her children,            | 3 00  |
| J. E. Martin, expense of a French family,                      | 2 50  |
| John D. Chellis, house rent for G. H. Veasey,                  | 4 66  |
| Dr. A. B. Hoyt, for professional services rendered             |       |
| G. H. Veasey,  | 10 25 |
| Mrs. Mary A. Stevens, for making clothes for Frank<br>Sleeper, | 75    |
| Reuben Frost, for digging grave for J. E. Stiles,              | 2 00  |
| Rev. Lorenzo Bailey, preaching funeral sermon for              |       |
| J. E. Stiles,  | 2 00  |
| Darius Martin, coffin for J. E. Stiles,                        | 10 00 |
| Mary E. Hopkins, aid for her and family,                       | 4 50  |
| Peter S. Braley, for support of Calvin Heath,                  | 19 50 |
| Seth B. Barney, for support Mrs. Roby Prescott,                | 26 00 |
| L. D. Williams, goods for Frank Sleeper,                       | 12 38 |
| D. J. Clay, for beef for Frank Paul,                           | 76    |
| L. D. Williams, goods for Mrs. Hopkins,                        | 5 31  |
| J. E. Martin, goods for Mrs. Hopkins,                          | 13 45 |
| J. E. Martin, for books for Frank Sleeper,                     | 60    |
| L. D. Williams, goods for Mrs. Roby Prescott,                  | 1 91  |
| L. D. Williams, goods for Calvin Heath,                        | 2 68  |

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Henry C. Varnum, support of Ziza Varnum,  | 67 50    |
| A. B. Haskins, rent of house for Mrs. Hopkins,  | 4 00     |
| Dr. E. M. Tucker, for professional services rendered  |          |
| J. E. Stiles,   | 23 25    |
| Mrs. Emeline Sleeper, for support of Eliza Sleeper,   | 8 00     |
| Mrs. Emeline Sleeper, for support of Eliza Sleeper,   | 10 00    |
| Henry C. Varnum, for support Ziba Varnum,   | 37 50    |
| Jarvis Barney, liquor for J. E. Stiles,   | 1 05     |
| J. E. Martin, goods for Frank Paul,   | 11 15    |
| J. E. Martin, goods for L. A. Healey,   | 8 34     |
| P. S. Braley, for support of Calvin Heath,  | 12 75    |
| L. D. Williams, goods for Ziba Varnum,  | 1 90     |
| L. D. Williams, goods for Calvin Heath,   | 1 47     |
| L. D. Williams, goods for Frank Sleeper,  | 90       |
| Susan E. Kimball, for cutting and making two coats,<br>two pairs of pants, one vest, and articles furnish-<br>ed for Frank Sleeper, | 5 73     |
| Seth B. Barney, for support of Mrs. Roby Prescott,  | 17 00    |
| Seth B. Barney, for feeting, mittens, etc. furnished<br>Frank Sleeper,  | 1 60     |
|   | <hr/>    |
|   | \$487 43 |

## TOWN PAUPER BILLS.

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Paid Dr. A. B. Hoyt, for professional services rendered                     |       |
| M. F. Wilkins,  | 5 00  |
| Lorenzo D. Braley, for plowing, sowing and harrow-<br>ing for David Buffum, | 4 00  |
| Mrs. Sarah M. Braley, work at W. P. Messer's,                               | 5 67  |
| Mrs. Hattie F. Hall, for support Mrs. Sophia Hall,                          | 21 00 |
| L. D. Williams, goods for Mrs. Sophia Hall,                                 | 97    |
| Mrs. Hattie F. Hall, support Mrs. Sophia Hall,                              | 21 00 |
| Nelson L. Gifford, cutting and drawing wood for<br>David Buffum,            | 4 00  |
| Dr. A. B. Hoyt, for professional services rendered                          |       |
| Mrs. W. P. Messer,  | 27 00 |
| Mrs. Hattie F. Hall, support of Sophia Hall,                                | 21 00 |
| Dr. J. B. N. Gould, 1 visit and medicine for Mrs.<br>Messer;                | 1 50  |

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Hiram Barney, for 1 bag meal for W. P. Messer,                                   | 1 40     |
| A. G. Russell, for 1 bag meal for W. P. Messer,                                  | 1 30     |
| J. E. Martin, goods for David Buffum,  | 4 37     |
| J. E. Martin, goods for W. P. Messer,  | 15 67    |
| H. W. Eaton, for support of David Buffum,  | 21 00    |
| L. D. Williams, goods for David Buffum,  | 1 59     |
| Dr. A. B. Hoyt, for professional services rendered<br>David Buffum,              | 2 75     |
| E. F. Folsom, for provisions and clothing for David<br>Buffum for the year 1880, | 42 56    |
|  | -----    |
|  | \$201 78 |

#### HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Paid Preserved Ford, building culvert and labor,                | 6 00  |
| A. J. Riddle, labor on highway,                                 | 4 32  |
| N. Riddle, " "  | 1 95  |
| R. Beers, " "   | 5 25  |
| Daniel Hook, " "  | 6 50  |
| H. D. Barney, " "   | 5 25  |
| N. L. Gifford, " "  | 2 00  |
| W. Underhill, stringers for bridge,                             | 1 25  |
| S. R. Truell, for bridge timber, plank, and labor on<br>bridge, | 29 49 |
| S. W. Barney, bridge plank,                                     | 6 82  |
| B. F. Andrew for bridge plank,                                  | 10 00 |
| Mrs. Amy Martin, timber for bridge,                             | 3 33  |
| S. W. Barney, bridge plank,                                     | 8 07  |
| A. J. Riddle, labor on highway,                                 | 2 50  |
| Stephen George " "  | 5 61  |
| N. Riddle, " "  | 2 50  |
| J. B. Tuttle, " "   | 1 45  |
| H. C. Johnson, " "  | 1 00  |
| A. S. Heath, " "  | 3 00  |
| D. B. Smith, bridge plank,                                      | 4 50  |
| R. W. Heath, plank and labor,                                   | 2 77  |
| A. S. Williams,   | 3 00  |
| P. Smith, work on bridge,                                       | 2 70  |
| C. G. Bucklin, " "  | 5 57  |

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Peter Pecoy, breaking roads, | 1 00     |
| R. Gage, " "                 | 1 00     |
| George Hoyt, " "             | 1 77     |
| O. J. Braley, " "            | 2 16     |
| Albert Tenney, " "           | 2 16     |
| J. P. Bullock, " "           | 4 90     |
| M. M. Kilton, " "            | 3 60     |
| G. G. Little, " "            | 2 00     |
| R. W. Heath, " "             | 6 50     |
| S. Heath, " "                | 1 80     |
|                              | -----    |
|                              | \$151 72 |

## MISCELLANEOUS BILLS.

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Paid Sargent & Chase, advice in road case in 1878,                             | 5 00  |
| J. B. Sanborn for collector's book, blanks, etc.,                              | 4 80  |
| H. W. Stevens, damage to sleigh on highway,                                    | 10 00 |
| C. O. Barney, printing town reports 1880,                                      | 11 00 |
| Dr. E. M. Tucker, certificate of birth,  | .25   |
| D. J. Clay, use of room making taxes,  | 2 00  |
| Fairbanks, Brown & Co., for weights and measures,                              | 39 75 |
| H. P. Goodrich, County Sealer, for sealing the town's<br>weights and measures, | 7 50  |
| Byron Fellows, expense to County sealers,                                      | 2 58  |
| J. B. Sanborn, for check-lists,  | .90   |
| Poor, Towne & Co., for oil, lead and paint for town<br>house,                  | 57 18 |
| Horace Barney, shingles for town house,  | 50    |
| Gust Walker, glass for town house,   | 85    |
| J. A. Greene, for painting town house,   | 31 00 |
| B. F. Davis, labor and Japan for town house,                                   | 1 05  |
| L. D. Williams, nails and glass " "  | 1 93  |
| J. E. Martin, oil and glass, " "   | 5 96  |
| J. E. Martin, for record book,   | 2 75  |
| John Dresser for making, lettering, and painting 36<br>guide boards,           | 18 00 |
| R. Gage, drawing guide boards from Enfield to Graf-<br>ton Centre,             | 1 00  |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| H. H. Wilson and S. R. Swett, for services as referees in Buffum case, | 20 00 |
| A. S. Heath, witness in Buffum case,                                   | 1 50  |
| A. L. Young, for making jury box, ballot boxes etc.                    | 3 00  |
| F. D. Currier, services in Gaylord case,                               | 5 00  |
| D. Gile, for guide board post and setting same,                        | 50    |
| Alvah Stevens expense to Plymouth to settle County bills May term,     | 7 50  |
| Alvah Stevens, expense to Plymouth to settle County bill Nov. term,    | 7 50  |
| Stephen George, watering trough, 1879-80,                              | 4 00  |
| Horace Barney, " " 1880,   | 3 00  |
| J. B. Bullock, " " 1879-80,  | 5 00  |
| D. N. Chandler, " " 1880,  | 2 50  |
| Watson Dean, bounty on 3 hawks,  | 60    |
| Peter Pecoy, " 2 "   | 40    |
| Frank Barney, " 2 "  | 40    |
| Walter F. Barney, " 1 "  | 20    |
| P. R. Kimball, " 1 "   | 20    |
| P. E. Bucklin, " 2 "   | 40    |
| Frank S. Webster, " 1 "  | 20    |
| A. H. Heath, " 1 "   | 20    |
| George H. Johnson " 1 "  | 20    |
| Walter G. Valia, " 1 "   | 20    |
| C. S. Jones, " 1 "   | 20    |
| George A. Gibbs, " 1 "   | 20    |
| C. G. Bucklin, " 1 "   | 20    |
| G. Waldron, " 1 "  | 20    |
| Almer F. Cole, " 2 "   | 40    |
| W. S. Cochran, " 1 "   | 20    |
| J. H. Buffum, " 1 "  | 20    |
| G. M. Sulloway, " 2 "  | 40    |
| P. E. Buckln, " 1 "  | 20    |
| W. P. Sanders, " 1 "   | 20    |
| A. F. Cole, " 1 "  | 20    |
| C. G. Bucklin, " 2 "   | 40    |
| Geo. Severance, " 1 "  | 20    |
| G. Waldron, " 1 "  | 20    |

|  |   |   |   |           |
|--|---|---|---|-----------|
| O. B. Childs,  | " | 1 | " | 20        |
| A. S. Bucklin,                                       | " | 1 | " | 20        |
| L. S. Harvey,  | " | 1 | " | 20        |
| A. S. Bucklin,                                       | " | 1 | " | 20        |
| Dunbar & Co. State agents for liquors,               |   |   |   | 1147 86   |
| Northern R. R. freight on liquors,                   |   |   |   | 33 23     |
| "        "        oil, lead, etc.,                   |   |   |   | 7 54      |
| Joseph B. Page, postage and stationery,              |   |   |   | 2 19      |
| Robert Underhill, witness in Buffum case,            |   |   |   | 1 50      |
| Horace Barney, fare to Concord to pay State tax etc. |   |   |   | 3 00      |
|  |   |   |   | <hr/>     |
|  |   |   |   | \$1466 02 |

## TOWN OFFICERS BILLS.

|   |             |           |
|---|-------------|-----------|
| Paid Elmer G. Smith, services as town clerk,                              |             | \$10 00   |
| Alvah Stevens, " selectman,   |             | 66 00     |
| Joseph B. Page, "   | "           | 65 25     |
| Horace Barney, "  | "           | 56 50     |
| John E. S. Walker, services as school committee,<br>school notices, etc., |             | 26 00     |
| Henry O. Rollins, services as Collector,                                  |             | 30 00     |
| Henry O. Rollins, " Supervisor,   |             | 15 00     |
| John E. Martin, "   | "           | 13 50     |
| Fayette Tinkham, "  | "           | 10 50     |
| John E. Martin, "   | Treasurer,  | 15 00     |
| Jarvis Barney, "  | Town agent, | 50 00     |
| Henry O. Rollins, "   | Auditor,    | 1 00      |
|   |             | <hr/>     |
|   |             | \$358 75  |
| Total received by the Selectmen,  |             | \$2665 70 |
| Total paid out     "      "   |             | \$2665 70 |

## ACCOUNT OF LIQUOR AGENCY.

|  |  |           |
|--|--|-----------|
| Value of liquor on hand Mar. 1st 1880, |  | \$243 80  |
| Value of barrels and kegs,             |  | 7 00      |
| Cash in agent's hands,                 |  | 27 02     |
| Paid State Agent for liquors,          |  | 1147 86   |
| Freight on liquors,                    |  | 33 23     |
| Agent's Salary,                        |  | 50 00     |
|  |  | <hr/>     |
|  |  | \$1508 91 |

|                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Paid Town Treasurer,       | \$1223 00           |
| Cash in agent's hands,     | 28 79               |
| Value of liquors on hand,  | 358 63              |
| Value of barrels and kegs, | 10 00               |
|                            | <hr/>               |
|                            | \$1620 42 \$1508 91 |
|                            | 1508 91             |
|                            | <hr/>               |
| Profit for the town,       | \$111 51            |
|                            | <hr/>               |

#### OUTSTANDING CLAIMS AGAINST THE TOWN.

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Due the school districts $\frac{1}{3}$ R. R. tax, | \$71 58  |
| “ “ “ Literary fund,                              | 82 14    |
| Estimate outstanding claims,                      | 150 00   |
|   | <hr/>    |
|   | \$303 72 |

#### AVAILABLE MEANS OF THE TOWN.

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Due on Collector's bond for 1878,      | \$10 09   |
| “ “ “ 1879,                            | 20 69     |
| “ “ “ 1880,                            | 333 78    |
| Due from the County,                   | 123 65    |
| In town treasurer's hands,             | 849 35    |
| Cash in liquor agent's hands,          | 28 79     |
| Value of liquor on hand,               | 358 63    |
| “ “ barrels and kegs,                  | 10 00     |
| Due from the State, bounty on hawks,   | 7 20      |
| The David Buffum farm,                 | 250 00    |
|  | <hr/>     |
| Total available means,                 | \$1992 18 |
| Amount of outstanding claims,          | 303 72    |
|  | <hr/>     |
| Balance in favor of the town,          | 1688 46   |
| Gain of available means the past year, | 117 77    |

I find the books correct, and all accounts properly vouched for.

HENRY O. ROLLINS, AUDITOR.

Grafton, Feb. 25, 1881.

# SCHOOL REPORT.

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In submitting the following report of the schools of Grafton, I wish to write a few words in explanation of what I mean by the term "greatest advancement," as used in connection with the improvement of the scholars in each district. The scholar that I name as having made the greatest advancement in each district, is the one, who in my judgment has *thoroughly* gone over the most ground, taking into consideration the number of different studies taken by the scholar. If there are several that made equal advancement, they are all named. I shall make the report of the advancement and improvement of schools, from what I have seen and heard during my visits to the schools.

## DISTRICT NO. 1.

Summer term taught by Lizzie M. Sanborn. Winter term by Sam Smith. The improvement in arithmetic during the summer term was very good, especially in the first class. The improvement in reading was hardly as good. The method used by the teacher in learning the scholars to mind their pauses, caused the reading to sound hard and constrained. Fair advancement was made in the other studies. On my last visit the order was not quite as good as it should have been. The winter term was several weeks longer than the summer term, consequently more work was accomplished. Good improvement was made in all of the studies, especially in arithmetic and the lowest classes in reading. The good order maintained was one of the features of the school. Greatest advancement made by Hattie Gove.

## DISTRICT NO. 2.

But one term in this district, taught by Grace A. Sargent. The school was very small, consequently the teacher was able to give a full allowance of time to recitations and explanations, which she evidently did. The scholars went over a good deal of ground, and

appeared to thoroughly understand all they had been over. The order in this school was excellent. Greatest advancement made by Nelson M. Gifford and Alberto Heath.

#### DISTRICT NO. 3.

Summer term taught by Almina F. Bullock. Winter term taught by George S. Barney. Very noticeable advancement was made by the scholars in this school, the teachers employed being thoroughly competent to instruct them. Some of the scholars conversed with their next neighbor rather too much on my last visit to the school. The school appeared very well on my two visits in the summer. Greatest advancement made by George H. Johnson.

#### DISTRICT NO. 4.

Both terms of this school were taught by Amy L. Hoyt. The attendance was small, and a great deal of attention was given to arithmetic, consequently good improvement was made in this study. The advancement in the other studies was not so perceptible. The teacher was eminently qualified to teach the school, but lacked in keeping good order. Greatest advancement made by Sadie E. Flanders.

#### DISTRICT NO. 5.

Summer and winter terms taught by Grace A. Sargent. Fall term taught by Mary A. Baldwin. Both of these teachers are excellent instructors, and under their good management, the pupils progressed rapidly. Marked improvement was made in reading during the fall term. The method used by Miss Sargent in the higher spelling classes, assists the scholars greatly in learning to compose sentences. Not hardly as good order kept in the fall term, as in the other two terms. Leon C. Williams of this district, is the most advanced scholar that has attended school during the year. He evidently studies with a determination to understand and remember, rather than to hurry over the ground.

#### DISTRICT NO. 6.

Summer and fall terms taught by Imogene Langley. Miss L. was a hard worker in her position, and from the appearance I should judge some of the pupils were willing their teacher should bear the burden, to the detriment of their own advancement. For scholars that expect to advance, must do a little thinking themselves. This does not apply to all however, as some of the scholars made very

good advancement. Winter term taught by J. E. S. Walker. Greatest advancement by Benj. F. Williams and Laura E. Bucklin.

#### DISTRICT NO. 9.

Summer and winter terms taught with good success by Katie A. Almond. This is one of the largest schools in town, and as a majority of the pupils are small the duties of the teacher are very arduous. Good improvement in geography and arithmetic. Good order was kept considering the number of small scholars. Greatest advancement made by Warren J. Smith.

#### DISTRICT NO. 10.

Summer term taught by Alice J. Stevens. Winter term by Almina F. Bullock. The term in the summer was very short, the scholars few in number and irregular in attendance. This was Miss S's first experience as a teacher, and I think she bids fair to make a successful one. The term being so short, but little advancement was made. Good discipline and rapid advancement marked the progress of the winter school. The teacher evidently tried to have the scholars make thorough work of their studies. Greatest advancement made by Lillian A. Webster.

#### DISTRICT NO. 11.

Summer and fall terms taught by George F. Pettengill. Taking the school as a whole, I think the pupils made greater improvement than any other school in town, considering the length of the terms. The teacher is well up as an instructor, and has the faculty of imparting knowledge to scholars that makes the lessons interesting. Greatest advancement made by Florence L. Felch.

#### DISTRICT NO. 12.

One term in this district, taught by Albert B. Stevens. The scholars did not seem to be at all anxious to avail themselves of the short time they had to attend school. Indifference of scholars in regard to attending school regularly, makes hard and discouraging work for a teacher; for when the pupils do attend, they advance very slowly. The scholars that did attend regularly made good improvement. Greatest advancement made by Val M. Hardy.

#### DISTRICT NO. 13.

Summer term taught by Jennie S. Barrey. Winter term by Fred A. Stevens and Julius B. Hale. The summer term was a successful

one, the scholars learning rapidly and evidently being under a good state of discipline. Miss B. is an excellent scholar and competent instructor. The winter term was commenced by Mr. Hale, but he was obliged to relinquish the school on account of his health, and Mr. Stevens kept the remainder of the term. The number of pupils attending the winter term was the largest of any school in town. On my first visit the school appeared to be progressing finely, the good order kept being especially noticeable. The school was evidently finished in a successful manner by Mr. Stevens. Greatest advancement made by Flora E. Barney, Alden H. Barney, and Eddie L. Sargent.

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#### GENERAL REMARKS.

In making a few general remarks about the schools of Grafton, it may perhaps be in order to give a few reasons why the Franklin Arithmetics were introduced and Greenleaf's Arithmetics taken out of the schools. 1st. To secure a uniformity of text books in mathematics. 2d. Because Greenleaf's Arithmetics have been in use so long, the examples contained in them have become much more familiar than the principles. 3d. Because I consider that the National Arithmetic is of no practical benefit to scholars attending district schools. If taken at all it should be taken in high schools and academies. 4th. Because the illustrations and the method of taking up the different subjects in the primary and elementary arithmetics, cannot fail to make arithmetic interesting to the beginner, if taught according to the plan laid out by the author. 5th. Because the rules and definitions in the Written Arithmetic are clear and concise and clothed in words that the dullest intellect can comprehend. 6th. Because the Metric System is placed in the body of the book with the other weights and measures, and is treated in a logical and intelligible manner. 7th. Because the answers to the examples for the slate are not given in the arithmetic; and if the key remains in the hands of the teacher (as it invariably should) the scholar will be obliged to get out of the habit of working the example with reference to the answer, and get into the habit of working the example with reference to the principles involved in the question.

There should be a uniformity of text books in every study taken in the schools. It would make the number of classes in each school much smaller, and by doing this give the teacher more time to devote to each class, and make the school more interesting to the schol-

ars. Some of the teachers have had to hear three or four classes in geography where there need not have been but one if each of the scholars had used the same kind of a book in that study. It would also enable the Sup't. of schools to determine very easily which scholars made the greatest advancement. While under the present system it is extremely difficult to do this in a good many instances. The great fault with most scholars I find to be a desire to go over as much ground in their studies as possible without thoroughly understanding the different subjects; and consequently frequent reviews are necessary. I have noticed some of the teachers pursue the wrong method in assisting scholars about their arithmetic lessons. Teachers should rarely work out an example for a scholar, but instead, thoroughly explain the principles involved and let the scholars work out the examples for themselves. A good many of the more advanced scholars should take up the study of history. I think it would be an interesting study to most of them, besides being very beneficial. Nearly all of the teachers give too little attention to the reading classes. Good scholars in arithmetic or geography are much more common than good readers. The following is a list of the scholars that have been present every half day of the school year, without being tardy: Alberto Heath, Wilbur Riddle, Mabel Wentworth, Freddie Lund, Val Hardy, Orra Hoyt, Florence Hoyt, Grace Smith.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN E. S. WALKER,

*S. S. Committee.*

Feb. 22, 1881.